

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: GARABEDIAN=2A

In re Application of:

Michael GARABEDIAN

Date Filed: July 30, 2003

For: ANTIBODIES THAT RECOGNIZE AND BIND PHOSPHORYLATED...

Art Unit: 1647

Washington, D.C.

Confirmation No. 8615

December 9, 2004

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action of November 9, 2004, primarily in the nature of a requirement for restriction. The examiner requires restriction to one of Groups I-VII as identified on page 2 of the Office Action.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I, presently comprising claims 1-3 and drawn to a molecule comprising the antigen binding portion of an antibody specific for glucocorticoid receptor phosphorylated at residue Ser211 or at residue Ser226, for examination on the merits. This requirement is traversed insofar as Groups I and VII are concerned. Traversal is based on the fact that both groups are

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directed to antibody molecules specific for a structurally similar antigen. Both antigens are glucocorticoid receptors but phosphorylated at a different serine residue. The search in class 530, subclass 387.1, as indicated by the examiner, would be coextensive and therefore would not impose a serious burden on the examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction insofar as Groups I and VII are concerned are respectfully requested.

Applicants further understand that, if the elected product of Group I is found allowable, then the process claims of Groups II and III, which ultimately depend from claim 1 of Group I, would be rejoined pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 821.04 for rejoinder practice.

Favorable consideration and examination of both Groups
I and VII on the merits is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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